Council Proceedings.

Council Chamber, January 30th, 1883.

The City Council met last night in the Council Chamber. In the absence of Mayor Meredith Ald. Birrell was elected chairman, Ald. Labatt, Hunt, Hyman, O'Meara, Cowan, Skinner, Browne, Stringer, Moore, Boyd and Beecher being in their places.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

COMMUNICATIONS.

From Lieut.-Col. W. D. Otter, asking for a grant toward the Ontario Rifle Association. No 1.

From W. H. Moorhead, asking to be appointed chimney sweep. No. 3.

From Mesdames Kent and Hyttenrauch, asking for a grant in aid of the Women's Refuge. No. 3, with power.

From I. Danks, Secretary of the Water Commissioners, asking the opinion of the Council in reference to the laying of free water service. No. 1.

From Rev. A. J. A. Gollmer, claiming exemption from taxation. No. 1.

From Mrs. Maria Hillier, asking a reduction of taxes. No. 1.

From W. R. Meredith, City Solicitor, enclosing the Gas Bill now before the Local Legislature. Filed.

From the call men of the Fire Brigade, asking for an increase of salary. No. 3.

The petition of Mrs Stansfield in reference to having her taxes charged against the property was referred to No. 1 Committee.

ACCOUNTS.

Plummer Manufacturing Co., for repairing hose reel, $56 80. No. 3.

Wm. Anthistle, balance on gravel contract, $20. No 2.

NUMBER THREE.

Ald. Hunt reported from No. 3 Committee as follows:—

(1). That the following accounts be paid: James Cowan & Co., $3.10; H. C. Smith, $43.99, B. Cottam, $9.90; Women's Christian Association, $24.50; Maurice Baldwin, $17.50; total, $98.99. (2). That the petition of Robert Smith and others be granted on the City Engineer estimating amount of rebate. (3). That James Marshall be appointed chimney sweep for the south part of the city. (4). That the petition of H. W. Blinn be granted. (5). That J. Doty, Mrs. Hyam and J. E. Belcher be granted licenses for balance of license year in proportion to the annual rate. (6). That Henry Mercer be granted a reduction of fifty cents per month on rent of stall in the basement of Covent Garden Market. (7). That Wm. Baxter receive $1 per week in addition to the present grant until 1st of May next. (8). Your Committee beg to report three of the stalls in the fish market being leased by auction for one year, from Feb. 1st, at $5 per month; stall No. 4 is still vacant. (9). Your Committee having called for tenders for the receipts of the weigh scales, beg to recommend the acceptance of Alex. McIntosh's tender, and further recommend that a by-law appointing him Weigh Scale Clerk be now passed. The amount Mr. McIntosh agrees to pay for above privilege is $465.

The report was taken up clause by clause.

The first four clauses adopted.

The fifth and following clauses adopted.

A by-law was then read three times and passed, appointing Mr. Alex. McIntosh Weigh Clerk for one year from the 1st of Feb., 1883.

NUMBER TWO.

Ald. Browne, (chairman), reported from this Committee as follows:—(1) That the following accounts be paid:—Commissioners' pay roll, $42.12; Thomas Summers, for stone, $6.67; total, $48.79; (2) that the account of John Bryan, amounting to $17.50, for work done in 1881, on foundation of Mr. Winder's house, Wellington street, has been referred to the Engineer and Chairmain, with power, and your Committee would recommend that in future all accounts be handed in immediately on the completion of work done or material furnished this corporation; (3) that the request of Messrs. Panton & Dayton, referred to committee, for abatement of a nuisance near their premises, on Richmond street, has been granted, and the Engineer be instructed to have the gully hole trapped immediately; (4) that the account of T. F. Kingsmill, amounting to $68.38, for carpeting the Police Magistrate's and Police Clerk's office, be dealt with by the Council, as the liability was incurred without the sanction of your Committee or Council, we would therefore recommend that in future no expenditure be incurred by any official without a request being made to and the sanction of this or any of the Committees to whom a request may be referred or authorized by the Council; (5) that the price to be paid for breaking stone for the use of the corporation be at the rate of $3.50 per cord, subject to the measurement by the Engineer; (6) your Committee respectfully request that the sum of $3,000 be placed to their credit to meet current expenditures.

The report was taken up clause by clause, and the first three clauses passed without discussion.

On the fourth clause Ald. Browne stated that the Police Magistrate had ordered the carpet for his room.

Ald. Hunt moved, seconded by Ald. Stringer, that the account be paid and that the recommendation contained in the clause of the report be adopted. Carried.

The remainder of the report was adopted.

A COMPLAINT.

Ald. Stringer stated that a Mr. Kennedy, in the southern part of the city, complained of gas having made its way into his cellar, and if the nuisance was not abated he would have to leave his house.

Referred to the Chairman of Number Two Committee.

NUMBER ONE.

Ald. Hyman (Chairman) reported from No. 1 Committee as follows:—(1) That accounts amounting to $98 69 be paid; (2) that the petition of E. T. Essery and 140 others, for a free library, be granted; (3) that the petition of John Peters for salary as acting Police Magistrate be granted by allowing Mr. Peters an amount equal to the sum that would have been paid to the Police Magistrate for the period between August 16th and December 19th, being the date up to which the late L. Lawrason was paid, and the date that E. J. Parke took office; (1) that the petition of Ellen Fletcher for remission of taxes on lot 16, south Simcoe street, be granted by allowing a rebate of $6, being one-half of her taxes; (5) that the petition of Mrs. Nicol and Widow Brown, for remission of taxes, be granted; (6) that the petition of Ellen Finnagan, for remission of taxes, be filed; (7) that the allowance of three-quarters of one per cent. to the tax collectors for services should apply only on the amount of cash actually collected; (8) your committee beg to report progress on the petitions of Mary Connally, Annie Brondon and Mrs. Kelly for remission of taxes, and Arthur Wallace's account for extra assessments; (9) your committee find the following statute relating to the duties of auditors appointed for 1883, viz:—"The auditors shall examine and report upon accounts affecting the corporation or relating to any matter under its control or within its jurisdiction for the year ending on the thirty-first day of December preceding their appointment"—(36 Vic. c. 48 s 204)—and recommend that the auditors of 1882 be relieved of any future responsibility on account of the audit of the year 1882; (10) that the by-law assessing lawns be passed as now read; (11) that the Council instruct the City Solicitor to have a clause inserted in the London Junction Railway Bonus Act whereby the Grand Trunk Railway Company shall be exempted from the payment of any rate of taxes on account of the said bonus on properties held by them in this city; (12) that the petition of Robt. Coote for remission of sewer rate be not granted; (13) your committee recommend that a sum of $100 be granted for the purpose of procuring a map of the different plans of the city; (14) that your committee be authorized to procure a copy of the Statutes of Ontario for the use of the city.

The report was taken up clause by clause.

The first clause passed.

On the second clause, Ald. Boyd moved, seconded by Ald. Becher, that the clause be referred back to the Committee so that the promoters of the project may appear before No. 1 Committee with a definite scheme. Carried.

The remainder of the report was adopted.

The By-law for assessing lawns, etc., was read a third time and passed.

Ald. Browne moved, seconded by Ald. Skinner, that the Clerk be instructed to notify the different officials of this corporation of the recommendation of No. 2 Committee with reference to their not being permitted to incur any expenditure without the consent of the Council, or without the recommendation of any of the committees to whom it may be referred, and that the same take immediate effect. Carried.

Ald. Hunt submitted the agreement to be entered into between the corporation and the purchaser of the weigh scales fees, which was adopted by the Council.

Ald. Hunt moved, seconded by Ald. Stringer, that tenders be advertised for the building and completion of a wing to the City Hospital at a cost not exceeding $3,000; also that tenders be called for the erection of an addition to the present Hospital, the same to be used as a lecture and consultation room, at a cost of $1,000; also for tenders for putting in the boiler, piping, etc., necessary for heating the Hospital with steam, and that $4,000 be placed to the credit of No. 3 Committee for the improvement to the Hospital.

Ald. Hyman moved in amendment, seconded by Ald O'Meara, that all the words after the $1,000 in the motion be struck out and that No. 3 Committee be instructed to call for tenders and report back to the Council before any tender be accepted.

The amendment was carried.

Adjourned for two weeks.